



Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov

Week Ending July 22, 2012

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This report can be found on the Internet at www.nass.usda.gov/pa and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."

Good Week for Field Work: Pennsylvania had an average of 5 days suitable for field work. Field activities for the week included hay making, baling straw and harvesting oats.

PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending July 22, 2012

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
13	41	45	1

Crop Progress: Corn silking continues and is 75% complete, ahead of last year's 50% and the 5-year average of 54%. Corn dough has begun and is 7% complete, compared with 2% last year and the average of 6%. Corn height is 71 inches, ahead of 68 inches last year and the average of 68 inches. Winter wheat harvest continues and is 99% complete, compared with 96% last year and the average of 91%. Oats are 94% yellow, ahead of 46% at this time last year and the average of 76%. Oats are 65% ripe, compared with 14% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 30%. Oats harvest continues and is 38% complete, compared with 7% last year and the average of 13%. Second cutting alfalfa continues and is 96% complete, ahead of last year's 93% and the average of 90%. Third cutting alfalfa continues and is 32% complete ahead of last year's 18% and the 5-year average of 24%. The second cutting of timothy/clover continues and is 67% complete, ahead of last year's 38% and the 5-year average of 39%. The peach harvest continues and is 54% complete compared with 17% last year and the 5-year average of 22%. The apple harvest has begun and is 18% complete ahead of 9% at this time last year and the average of 7%.

Crop Condition: State-wide corn conditions are; 4% very poor, 10% poor, 33% fair, 40% good, and 13% excellent. Oat conditions are; 0% very poor, 1% poor, 23% fair, 53% good, and 23% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 0% very poor, 5% poor, 37% fair, 46% good, and 12% excellent. Quality of hay made is; 0% very poor, 7% poor, 29% fair, 47% good and 17% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 12% very poor, 51% poor, 27% fair, 9% good and 1% excellent. Peach conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 12% fair, 45% good, and 43% excellent. Apple conditions are; 1% very poor, 0% poor, 11% fair, 49% good, and 39% excellent.

Nationwide as of July 15, 2012: Temperatures across the Corn Belt, northern Great Plains, and Pacific Northwest were well above normal during the week. Maximum temperatures for much of the Pacific Northwest reached well into the triple digits during the week. Rainfall was scarce across most of the country, with much of the significant precipitation occurring in far eastern Texas and the Delta States.

Corn: Nationally, an additional 21 percent of the corn crop began silking during the week, leaving progress at 71 percent complete. This was 43 percentage points ahead of last year and 35 points ahead

of the 5-year average. Warm weather in most of the major producing regions continued to promote rapid crop development, with double-digit silking progress occurring in 15 of the 18 major estimating states. By week's end, 12 percent of the crop was at or beyond the dough stage, 9 percentage points greater than last year and 8 points greater than the 5-year average. Overall, 31 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 9 percentage points from last week and 35 percentage points below the same time last year. In Iowa, good-to-excellent condition ratings declined 10 points from last week, as hot weather and below-normal precipitation continued to take a toll. **Soybeans:** By July 15, two-third of the nation's soybean crop was at or beyond the blooming stage, 32 percentage points ahead of last year and 24 points ahead of the 5-year average. Blooming continued at rapid pace during the week. Progress advanced at least 10 percentage points in all of the 18 major estimating states except Mississippi and North Carolina. Nationally, 16 percent of this year's crop was setting pods, 11 percentage points greater than last year and 7 points greater than the 5-year average. Hot, dry weather throughout most of the soybean producing regions led to further crop condition declines during the week. Thirty-four percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 6 percentage points from last week and 30 percentage points below the same time last year. **Winter Wheat:** Eighty percent of the winter wheat crop was harvested by week's end, 16 percentage points ahead of last year and 15 points ahead of the 5-year average. Mostly warm, sunny weather enabled producers in Michigan and South Dakota to make significant harvest progress during the week, advancing 31 and 41 percentage points, respectively. **Small Grains:** By July 15, oat producers had harvested 38 percent of this year's crop, 26 percentage points ahead of last year and 24 points ahead of the 5-year average. With another week of warm weather and sunny skies, harvest progress advanced 20 percentage points or more in Iowa, Ohio, and South Dakota. Overall, 59 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 4 percentage points from last week but the same as this time last year. With warm weather promoting rapid crop development, 95 percent of the barley crop was at or beyond the heading stage by July 15. This was 39 percentage points ahead of last year and 22 points ahead of the 5-year average. Significant heading progress was evident all five major estimating states except Minnesota, where head development had already been completed the previous week. Overall, 60 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up 3 percentage points from last week but 16 percentage points below the same time last year. Ninety-four percent of the spring wheat crop was at or beyond the heading stage by week's end, 40 percentage points ahead of last year and 17 points ahead of the 5-year average. In North Dakota, 90 percent of the crop was reported in the milk stage and 54 percent of the crop had turned, both well ahead of normal. Overall, 65 percent of the crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week and 8 percentage points below the same time last year.

Weather Data For Week Ending July 22, 2012

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - July 22, 2012					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Northwest												
Erie	92	59	74	4	0.99	3	8.71	-4.51	35	1,672	424	2,634
Franklin_AG	95	61	74	5	1.22	4	10.42	-5.11	43	1,558	365	2,517
Meadville-Port	94	58	75	6	1.42	3	10.25	-4.56	36	1,626	540	2,600
Clarion	92	58	72	3	1.54	3	12.40	-3.70	39	1,375	152	2,316
Springboro	92	57	72	2	1.17	3	11.68	-1.51	39	1,410	151	2,334
Warren	93	59	72	3	1.79	3	11.27	-4.13	42	1,449	290	2,392
North Central												
Bradford Region	90	53	71	5	1.21	3	11.20	-4.43	43	1,297	463	2,223
Oswayo	91	57	71	5	1.47	3	10.65	-4.44	37	1,172	234	2,069
Kane	92	52	69	4	1.16	4	13.93	-1.75	44	1,160	336	2,062
Laporte	88	56	71	0	3.35	4	18.02	3.31	48	1,259	66	2,192
Lock Haven	98	60	75	5	1.82	3	12.85	-1.43	48	1,659	386	2,687
Coudersport_1SW	91	55	70	5	1.03	3	12.55	-2.54	48	1,176	238	2,075
Renovo	94	62	74	4	2.79	4	15.73	1.45	43	1,610	337	2,629
Ridgway	93	56	72	6	0.72	3	10.92	-4.97	44	1,358	420	2,302
Stevenson Dam	95	61	74	8	0.96	3	11.41	-4.48	38	1,545	607	2,546
Towanda	94	60	74	4	1.55	3	12.72	0.54	44	1,473	269	2,434
Wellsboro	91	55	70	4	1.24	3	11.24	-1.08	42	1,209	330	2,138
Williamsport	98	62	76	4	1.25	4	12.08	-2.25	46	1,795	379	2,836
Northeast												
Hawley	94	55	72	5	1.53	4	11.15	-2.49	41	1,315	308	2,253
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	97	60	76	5	1.65	4	12.77	-0.62	46	1,688	344	2,687
Susquehanna	94	58	73	5	1.10	3	13.77	-0.82	42	1,399	432	2,347
West Central												
Butler	96	60	75	5	2.11	4	10.95	-3.66	39	1,611	369	2,608
New Castle	99	62	76	6	1.93	3	11.33	-2.19	35	1,710	459	2,718
Slippery Rock	98	60	76	8	1.37	2	11.50	-2.82	36	1,653	528	2,653
Central												
Altoona/Blair	95	61	75	4	2.66	4	12.28	-1.10	38	1,749	400	2,787
DuBois	92	57	72	3	0.69	3	11.01	-3.77	40	1,486	327	2,460
Lewistown	98	62	76	3	1.84	5	14.20	-0.20	51	1,751	270	2,813
Middletown	96	62	78	3	2.64	4	14.70	0.74	42	1,996	317	3,079
Prince Gallitzi	91	59	73	5	3.94	4	14.14	-2.78	38	1,427	367	2,410
Selinsgrove	99	61	76	4	1.95	4	12.70	-1.67	49	1,690	309	2,713
State College	94	60	74	3	2.11	4	13.93	0.71	50	1,669	338	2,697
East Central												
Allentown-Bethel	98	61	76	3	2.17	4	15.54	1.16	41	1,844	311	2,900
Lehighton	95	60	73	-1	1.30	4	15.19	0.70	47	1,553	84	2,576
Matamoras	95	59	74	3	1.89	4	15.01	-0.20	54	1,563	237	2,589
Mt_Pocono	94	53	71	5	1.36	4	14.96	-0.92	52	1,344	470	2,314
Southwest												
Pittsburgh/Alle	95	62	76	5	3.10	4	11.54	-2.53	40	1,964	609	3,013
Indiana_PA	93	59	74	3	2.15	4	13.10	-3.22	55	1,652	347	2,655
Myersdale	87	60	71	1	1.52	4	13.54	-2.36	45	1,230	4	2,190
Chalk_Hill	89	61	72	0	3.20	5	14.48	-1.06	45	1,344	-111	2,312
Pittsburgh Intl	97	62	77	5	2.00	3	10.83	-2.34	37	1,903	479	2,943
Connellsville	92	62	75	3	2.85	6	13.59	-1.95	43	1,748	293	2,798
Waynesburg	97	63	77	6	3.42	5	10.10	-4.21	37	1,667	357	2,693
South Central												
Biglerville	97	61	77	2	3.50	4	15.78	2.98	45	1,865	212	2,935
Everett	95	60	74	3	2.06	5	14.44	1.58	48	1,520	201	2,536
Hanover	97	62	77	2	4.21	5	15.97	3.17	48	1,806	153	2,865
Harrisburg_AP	98	63	79	3	2.38	4	14.98	1.02	43	2,044	358	3,129
South Mountain	90	58	72	1	3.25	5	17.16	3.78	46	1,482	140	2,489
York	96	62	77	2	2.32	5	13.59	-0.63	49	1,820	174	2,864
Southeast												
Green Lane	98	62	77	4	1.56	4	13.92	-0.15	42	1,808	352	2,878
Hamburg	96	62	76	5	2.00	4	15.49	-1.43	45	1,784	466	2,841
West_Chester	98	62	76	2	1.11	3	12.76	-3.05	29	1,780	147	2,828
Lancaster	97	62	78	4	1.81	4	11.89	-2.78	36	1,914	381	2,973
Neshaminy Falls	100	63	77	4	1.24	3	14.36	-1.99	44	1,876	349	2,964
New Holland	96	61	76	2	1.22	3	14.16	-0.51	36	1,927	394	3,019
Philadelphia	100	64	81	4	0.50	2	9.82	-4.37	29	2,200	427	3,309
Philadelphia NE	100	63	78	2	1.83	4	11.23	-2.96	37	2,013	240	3,103
Reading	100	63	78	5	1.13	5	11.70	-3.89	42	2,014	514	3,092
Sellersville	98	61	75	2	3.27	4	15.37	1.30	38	1,694	238	2,723
Doylestown_AG	100	63	77	3	2.06	4	14.60	-1.75	41	1,875	348	2,948

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A. Behney

Adams County had another hot and pretty dry week. It was in the mid 90's for daytime temperatures through Thursday. Morning temperatures were about 70 degrees. Wednesday afternoon a thunderstorm came through the county with various amounts of rainfall, and some areas only received a couple of drops. York Springs had 0.5" while Brushtown/Hanover area had 1.5" and Bonneauville had some drops. Thursday afternoon around 3:30 Biglerville got dumped on with rain, and then again around 7:30 thunderstorms with wicked lightning came through the county and Biglerville again got a significant accumulation. York Springs received 1.5" during an 8 pm storm. Some more rain is in the forecast for our area. Today is foggy and cloudy.

Corn continues to suffer from lack of rain previous to the last two days. Some corn will start to be chopped in early August due to drought conditions. Some corn is in tassel but lack of rain means no ears on the stalks. Most fields also have different stages of corn within the same fields due to different germination. The rain the past two days will help but to what degree is unknown. Producers are hoping that the crop yields some corn for grain with the higher prices now but time will tell. Hay continued to be baled most of the week. Soybeans are looking pretty good with some around Orrtanna out in blossom. The soybeans that were double-cropped after wheat and barley should be coming up now since we have some moisture. Fruit crops continue to grow with fruit sizing up. Some of these thunderstorms had very heavy rains. I have not heard of any hailstones but producers are concerned about the future of their crops. Peaches seem to be pretty good size considering the spring weather conditions. Vegetables continue to be harvested throughout the county. Overall, the producers in the county are a little happier that we received some rainfall here and hopefully some of the rain will benefit the crops that didn't run off due to coming all at one time.

ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter

Good substantial rains have covered most of the tree fruit area this week.

CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little

There was much needed rain on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker

Some field work continued. It was a good week for barn chores. There was 3.25 inches of rain fall for the week.

CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner

Reports of second crop hay production are very poor. Many producers are harvesting 1/2 ton per acre or are just mowing and leaving it in field. Wheat yield is estimated at 60 bushels per acre.

COLUMBIA COUNTY, David Reedy

Some much needed rain has fallen and we are relieved of the extreme heat for now, but the area still is in a rainfall deficit. Rain is in the forecast for this upcoming week.

COLUMBIA COUNTY, John O Yocum

We received 2" of rain. The rain greatly helped soybeans and some corn. Some corn is passed helping, but soybeans received rain in time.

ERIE COUNTY, Nancy Lewis

Much needed rainfall fell sporadically helping the corn crop. Pastures are being affected by the lack of rain.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr

Showers this week essentially guaranteed a decent yield for corn and soybeans in the county. Some areas got well over 4 inches of rain for the month while most have had at least 2 inches. Cooler weather and cloudy days have helped the hay to recover. Fruit is looking good at this time, but yield will be down on most apple varieties.

INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff

Well, last week we got some much needed rain! Along with the warm/hot days and warm nights, it helped the corn out that had been in tassel and made the other corn grow about a foot. I have about 15 more acres of oats to cut yet. I should get it done this week if the rain holds off a couple of days. The forecast this week has chances of rain at 60% for a couple of days. The soybeans are looking good. The rain and heat is making them take off and grow faster. Also the rain is making the hay fields look green again. The second cutting, if we do any, might be around the end of August or the first part of September. Hope everyone has a safe farming week, and it looks like this week it will be in the mid 80's during the day all week. Keep cool and in the shade when it's hot and sunny out.

LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Ziegler

Rain! Anywhere from 1 inch to 2 inches total spread across Lebanon County over a couple days last week. The moisture restored corn that seemed to be devastated by the extremely dry weather. Not all of the corn came back but depending on the stage, there is hope for some sort of yield. Soybeans hung in during the dry weather and seemed rejuvenated by the rain. Alfalfa that had a lower yield for the third cutting should have a good start for the fourth cutting.

PERRY COUNTY, David L. Swartz

There was widely varying rainfall totals from several storms across our area this week, ranging from 1 inch to 2.7 inches. At this point, pollination looks good on corn fields at that stage. However, the corn that has tasseled will be shorter than expected, thus impacting tonnage of corn silage yields.

SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer

Light rains at the beginning and end of the week were too little too late for some of the corn. Haymaking, baling straw and harvesting oats were the main field activities for the week.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr

Between 1 and 2 inches of rain fell this week across of the area improving the condition of all growing crops. It will probably be at fall's harvest before we know the extent of the damaged caused to corn and soybeans by this summer's heat and abnormally dry conditions. Later cuttings of hay will give us an earlier gauge on the extent of yield recovery.

PA Crop Progress for Week Ending July 22, 2012

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, silk	75	50	54
Corn, dough	7	2	6
Corn average height, inches	71	68	68
Wheat, harvested	99	96	91
Oats, turning yellow	94	46	76
Oats, ripe	65	14	30
Oats, harvested	38	7	13
Alfalfa, 2nd cutting	96	93	90
Alfalfa, 3rd cutting	32	18	24
Timothy clover, 2nd cutting	67	38	39
Peaches, harvested	54	17	22
Apples, harvested	18	9	7

PA Crop Condition for Week Ending July 22, 2012

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	4	10	33	40	13
Oats	0	1	23	53	23
Soybeans	0	5	37	46	12
Quality of hay made	0	7	29	47	17
Pasture	12	51	27	9	1
Peaches	0	0	12	45	43
Apples	1	0	11	49	39

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Harrisburg PA 17112
 4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203
 Pennsylvania Field Office
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